

Allows for Loans to Eligible Farm Operators

San Antonio, TX—Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced today that Crockett County has been named as a contiguous natural disaster area by the US Secretary of Agriculture due to damages and losses caused by fires from February 25 to February 29, 2008 in Irion County. This designation makes farm operators in primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA) provided eligibility requirements are met.

“I am pleased that Crockett and the other eligible counties will be afforded this relief so that people may recover from these unfortunate fires,” said Rodriguez. “I hope that these loans can be of some assistance to people who are still in need of aid due to unforeseen hardships caused by the fires.”

Loan applications will be received through January 29, 2009, for production and physical losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, the four contiguous counties to Irion are named as contiguous disaster counties. Those counties are Crockett, Reagan, Schleicher, and Tom Green.

The local FSA office will provide affected farmer operators with further information and applications. Crockett County is administered out of the Reagan County FSA Office which also serves Irion and Upton Counties. Below is the contact information for the office:

Phone: (325) 884-3753

Fax: (325) 884-7023

Mailing:

Crockett County FSA Office

c/o Reagan County FSA Office

606 2nd Street

Big Lake, TX 76932-5318

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Congressman *Ciro D. Rodriguez* is a former social worker who currently serves on the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and the powerful House Committee on Appropriations. □ For more information on Congressman Rodriguez please visit <http://rodriguez.house.gov>

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